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国際調査報告書

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(54) Title: FUEL CELL-USE HUMIDIFIER

(54) 発明の名称: 燃料電池用加湿装置

(57) Abstract: A humidifier capable of increasing a humidifying efficiency with a gas pressure loss restricted even a low-pressure gas is used, and being suitably used for a fuel cell. A fuel cell-use humidifier comprising a hollow yarn membrane element mounted in a container so as to separate a space leading to the hollow side of a hollow yarn membrane from a space leading to the outer side of the hollow yarn membrane, characterized in that (a) the inner diameter of the hollow yarn membrane is larger than 400 µm, (b) the water vapor permeating speed (P'  $_{H20}$ ) of the hollow yarn membrane is at least  $0.5 \times 10^{-3}$  cm<sup>3</sup> (STP)/cm<sup>2</sup>·sec·cmHg, (c) a ratio (P' H20/P' 02) between water vapor permeating speed and oxygen gas permeating speed of the hollow yarn membrane is at least 10, and (d) the tensile breaking elongation of the hollow yarn membrane after hot-water-treated in 100°C hot water for 50 hours is kept at at least 80% of that before heat-treated; especially a fuel cell-use humidifier wherein L/D is at least 1.8 when the effective length of the hollow yarn membrane element is L, and the inner diameter of the hollow yarn membrane element-mounting container D.



Internal application No.
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A. CLASS	IFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER C1 H01M8/04, H01M8/10				
According to	According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC				
B. FIELDS	SSEARCHED				
Minimum do Int.(	ocumentation searched (classification system followed b C1 H01M8/04, H01M8/10, B01D63 B01D69/00-14, F24F6/04	/02, B01D53/22, B01D53/			
Jitsu Kokai	Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003  Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2003 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2003				
Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)					
C. DOCUI	MENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT				
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<u>'</u>	er documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.	See patent family annex.	rnational filing data ==		
"A" docum conside "E" earlier date "L" docum cited to special "O" docum means "P" docum than th	document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance earlier document but published on or after the international filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means  "P" document defining the general state of the art which is not understand the principle or theory underlying the invention document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art document member of the same patent family		he application but cited to derlying the invention claimed invention cannot be ered to involve an inventive e claimed invention cannot be pwhen the document is h documents, such a skilled in the art family		
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Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Japanese Patent Office		Authorized officer			
Facsimile N		Telephone No.			

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT		
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